

### When the shops are closed...set up shop at home!

As so many of the shops are closed at the moment why not set up shop at home? Firstly choose what kind of shop it's going to be then collect the items to go in the shop with your child...it may be clothes and shoes, pots and pans or bread and biscuits...let your child decide what they want to sell. You can lay things out on the table, hang them on hangers or make a full window display! You can use small bits of paper to make price tags...talk about how much things might cost and support your child to write the labels. Collect some bags for your customers to put their items in, you could even make a shop sign or lists of what to buy and maybe use counters, buttons or even dried peas as your money! Now it's time to go shopping! You can do lots of talking about different roles and take turns to be the shop keeper and the customer. Model how to pretend and have lots of fun role playing

**Expressive Arts and Design (Being Imaginative)**

### Book words and story talk...

We all love a good story but you can help your child even further by adding in some extra discussion when you share a book together...

Have a book chat with them, talking about the different bits of the book like the cover, pages, title and chat about what they are for. Look inside to see where the pictures and where the writing is and use words like word, letter, sentence...they may even be able to pick out some words or letters that are familiar to them. Also use words like illustration and author which may be new to your child but will help them to develop their language. As you look at the book together, support your child to talk about what is happening at the beginning, in the middle and at the end so that they begin to be more aware of story structure too. Remember to let them use their own words to describe what is happening if they want to and even see if they can predict what they think will happen at the end.

**Literacy (Reading)**

Why not try some of the learning tasks for this week...to support the following areas of  
**Early Years Learning**

**Literacy**

**Maths**

**Understanding the World**

**Expressive Arts and Design** 8



### Measure without rulers!

Help your child to find things that they want to measure. Talk about measuring being a way of finding the size of something... how big or small or long or short it is. Now talk to them about what they want to measure with...it could be a stick, piece of string, their hands or feet or even pieces of spaghetti or pasta shapes!

Get your child to put their finger at the start to show where they are measuring from and then move the stick/ pasta piece/ string along from point to point until you get to the end of what they're measuring and don't forget to count as you go! At the end you'll be able to summarise..."the table is 6 sticks long" or "your foot is 5 pieces of pasta long!"

There will be lots of really good counting and you can even extend the activity by comparing which is longest/ shortest/ taller/ wider etc!

**Maths (Shape, Space & Measure)**

### Who helps?...

Start by thinking about who your child is interested in in the community...maybe watch at the window to see the dustman or woman, postman or lady or delivery drivers. This is a good opportunity to talk to your child about what these people do and how they are helping and keeping safe during the current crisis. Think also about the people that your child may have seen on TV like Doctors, Nurses, Care Workers for example. They may have lots of questions about what they have seen and heard. Chat with your child to find out what they think these people do, what they wear, what equipment they need, as well and how they are helping and keeping everyone safe in the community. They may have been clapping on a Thursday night or have made rainbows to put in the window of the house. Remind them that this was to thank all those people and talk to your child about how lots of people are still helping in the community and how important this is to keep us all safe and well

**Understanding the World (People and Communities)**

